

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 September 2005 (15.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/085070 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B65B 13/04**,
27/08

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2005/000540

(22) International Filing Date: 3 March 2005 (03.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
04005269.8 5 March 2004 (05.03.2004) EP

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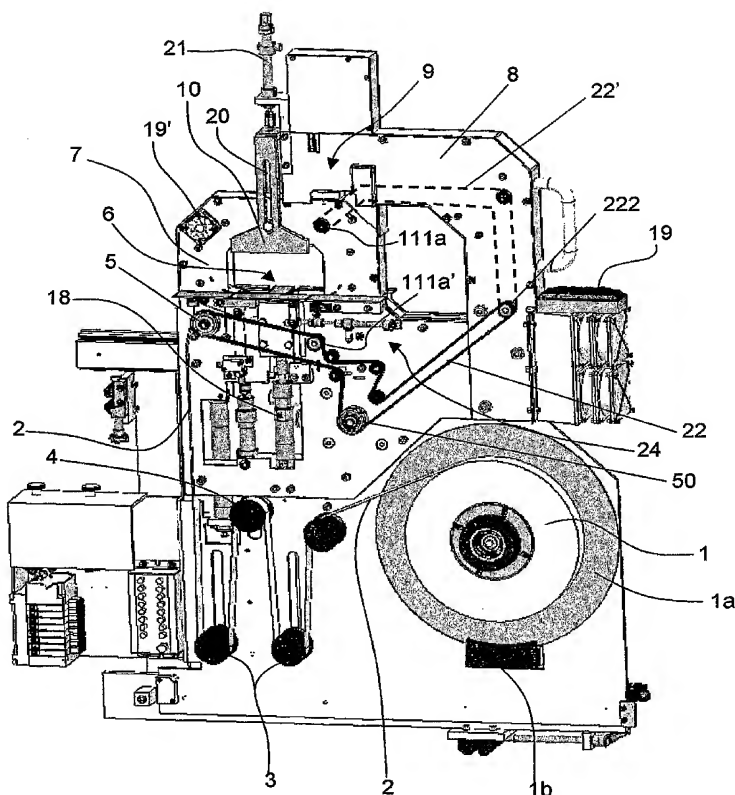
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ,

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(54) Title: **BANDING SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR BANDING PILED PRODUCTS**



(57) Abstract: A banding system for piled products with a machine frame (8), a band feed mechanism (6) disposed on the machine frame for feeding band material (2) from a supply roll (1), means for forming a loop (7) with said band material (2) around the products to be banded, welding means (14, 15) to close said loop, and cutting means (17) for cutting said band material, said means for forming the loop comprising transporting means (111, 13) for transporting the band material (2) around the product to be banded and vacuum means (19, 19', 24) connected to the transporting means. Said means for forming the loop (7) are movable with respect to machine frame (8) between an operating position where the means for forming the loop (7) are in contact with the band feed mechanism (6) to perform the banding operation and an open position where the means for forming the loop (7) are displaced away from the band feed mechanism (6) to create an opening therebetween allowing a transfer of products to be banded between the band feed mechanism (6) and the means for forming the loop (7).



TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,

Published:

— *with international search report*

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